

HONORABLE KYMBERLY K. EVANSON

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	NO. CR 24-082 KKE
)	
v.)	ORDER APPOINTING
)	RUSSELL M. AOKI
SALINA ROSE ATSEMET,)	AS COORDINATING
)	DISCOVERY ATTORNEY
Defendant.)	

Counsel for Defendant Salina Rose Atsemet has moved for appointment of Russell M. Aoki of Aoki Law PLLC as Coordinating Discovery Attorney. Dkt. No. 24. The Government does not oppose the motion. *Id.* at 1.

Because discovery in this matter is expected to be voluminous (Dkt. No. 24 at 2), and because Aoki's experience as a Coordinating Discovery Attorney in more than 140 federal cases in 46 jurisdictions (*id.* at 3), including matters related to this one (*id.* at 2), will help defense counsel avoid duplicative work (*id.* at 3), the Court finds good cause to GRANT the motion to appoint. Dkt. No. 24. It is hereby ORDERED that Russell M. Aoki of Aoki Law PLLC is appointed as Coordinating Discovery Attorney for court-appointed defense counsel.

The Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall oversee any discovery issues common to the court-appointed defendants. His responsibilities will include:

- 1 • Managing and, unless otherwise agreed upon with the Government, distributing
2 discovery produced by the Government and relevant third-party information
3 common to defendants;
- 4 • Assessing the amount and type of case data to determine what types of technology
5 should be evaluated and used so duplicative costs are avoided and the most
6 efficient and cost-effective methods are identified;
- 7 • Acting as a liaison with federal prosecutors to ensure the timely and effective
8 exchange of discovery;
- 9 • Identifying, evaluating, and engaging third-party vendors and other litigation
10 support services;
- 11 • Assessing the needs of individual parties and identifying any additional vendor
12 support that may be required—including copying, scanning, forensic imaging, data
13 processing, data hosting, trial presentation, and other technology depending on the
14 nature of the case;
- 15 • Identifying any additional human resources that the individual parties may need
16 for the organization and substantive review of information; and
- 17 • Providing training and support services to the defense teams as a group and
18 individually.

19 When executing these responsibilities, the Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall
20 assess the most effective and cost-efficient manner to organize the discovery with input from
21 defense counsel.

22 The Coordinating Discovery Attorney's duties do not include providing representation
23 services and will not be establishing an attorney-client relationship with any defendant.
24 Discovery intended for the counsel of a specific defendant and not to be shared with the other
25 defense counsel shall be produced by the Government directly to the defense counsel for that
26 defendant. Discovery issues specific to one defendant shall be addressed by defense counsel
27 directly with the Government and not through the Coordinating Discovery Attorney.
28

1 For any discovery common to all defendants already produced by the Government
2 before this Order, the Government shall provide a copy to the Coordinating Discovery
3 Attorney within 14 days. Any additional discovery not already produced shall be provided
4 directly to the Coordinating Discovery Attorney, who shall duplicate and distribute the
5 discovery to defense counsel unless the Government elects to produce discovery directly to
6 defense counsel with a simultaneous copy to the Coordinating Discovery Attorney. The
7 Government shall work with the Coordinating Discovery Attorney to provide discovery in a
8 timely manner.
9

10 The Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall petition this Court, *ex parte*, for funds for
11 outside services and shall monitor all vendor invoices for these services, including confirming
12 the work previously agreed to be performed. However, the Coordinating Discovery Attorney's
13 time and the time spent by his staff will be paid by the Administrative Office of the U.S.
14 Courts, Defender Services Office. All petitions for outside services shall include a basis for
15 the requested funds and a determination that the cost of the service is reasonable.
16

17 The Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall also provide this Court with monthly *ex*
18 *parte* status reports depicting the status of work and whether that work remains within the
19 budget of any funds authorized by the Court, with the copy provided to defense counsel.
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21 DATED THIS 15th day of July, 2024.
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24

25 Kymberly K. Evanson
26 United States District Judge
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